

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented): A device for lock-fixing an apparatus comprising a front face, and at least two lateral sides designed to be mounted in a rack comprising side walls along which the lateral sides of the apparatus are inserted, said device comprising:

first and second fixing elements respectively secured to the two lateral sides of the apparatus and to the side walls of the rack, the first element being moved by operating a handle in order to interact with the second fixing element to fix the apparatus in the rack,

a mechanism for locking said handle,

the handle having a gripping member connected to a handle body situated on a lateral side of the apparatus, wherein :

the locking mechanism comprises a sliding hook situated on one of the lateral sides close to an edge of the front face and a compression spring, arranged so that, in the locking phase,

the handle being operated by the user in a rotary movement to fix the apparatus, the handle body moves along the lateral side comprising the hook, retracting said hook, thus freeing said handle to pass,

after the passage of the handle, the compression spring repositions the hook thus serving as an abutment to said handle body in the locked position.

2. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hook has a bearing plane interacting with a bearing plane of the handle body to serve as an abutment.

3. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said bearing planes are in a plane parallel to the sliding axis of the hook.

4. (canceled):

5. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 2 wherein the bearing plane of the handle body extends longitudinally, its longitudinal dimension being greater than that of the bearing plane of the hook.

6. (canceled):

7. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim [[6]]1, wherein the apparatus has a front face with a rim arranged on at least one of its sides, the sliding hook and the compression spring are integrated into a housing formed in said edge.

8. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the apparatus having a front face rimmed by a frame, said rim forms one side of the frame.

9. (canceled):

10. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim [[9]]1, wherein the pushbutton may be moved in a housing one edge of which forms said abutment for the sliding hook.

11. (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim [[9]]10 wherein the locking mechanism comprises a plate for closing said housing.

12. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim [[6]]8 wherein a slope is made on the sliding hook allowing said hook to be retracted during locking of the handle.

13. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the handle body is secured to the side of the apparatus via a rotating pivot.

14. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the first fixing element is supported by one end of the handle body, opposite relative to said pivot of the end to which the gripping member is connected.

15. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 14, wherein the first fixing element and the second fixing element, secured to the rack, have complementary shapes making it possible to fasten them to one another when the apparatus is pushed into the rack to be fixed.

16. (previously presented): The fixing device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the first element is formed of a hook and the second element is formed of a projecting pin that can be moved along a slide formed in the rack and is associated with a spring calibrated so that the operation of the handle causes said calibrated spring to be placed in tension.

17. (previously presented): The fixing device according to claim 1, further comprising first fixing elements on two opposite sides of the apparatus, these first fixing elements being moved by the operation of two handles in order to interact with second fixing elements secured to the rack, and in that it comprises two locking mechanisms substantially identical for each of said handles.

18. (previously presented): The fixing device according to claim 17, wherein the gripping members of the two handles join together to form a central bar allowing the two handles to be operated simultaneously.

19. (previously presented): A rack equipped with at least one apparatus fixed by

means of a fixing device according to claim 1, wherein it has, on each of its side walls situated facing one side of the apparatus along which is situated a handle body, an area of reduced thickness allowing said handle body to be housed.

20. (new): The fixing device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the bearing plane of the handle body extends longitudinally, its longitudinal dimension being greater than that of the bearing plane of the hook.

21. (new): The fixing device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the bearing plane of the handle body extends longitudinally, its longitudinal dimension being greater than that of the bearing plane of the hook.